



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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AUG 16 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Universal Identifier Code

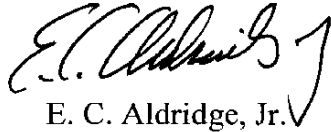
The ability to discretely identify the acquisition, issuance, maintenance, storage, transfer, expenditure and/or disposal of tangible items (e.g., property, spare parts, supplies) is critical to the success of the DoD Financial Management Enterprise Architecture (FMEA), because such events trigger financial transactions that must be accurately and timely recorded in both non-financial feeder (business) and financial systems. A universal identifier code for tangible items will facilitate the discrete recordation of such events.

Within DoD and industry, much has been done, and is being considered today, to establish standards for a universal identifier code for use in bar-coding and tracking items; however, no government or industry standard presently exists. The IBM Team, who is developing the DoD FMEA, will perform a thorough analysis to determine and recommend to the Department an appropriate approach to be employed DoD-wide and to be incorporated in the DoD FMEA.

Until the IBM analysis is completed, all elements of the Department must cease any similar studies and should not issue any new related policy or procedures, acquire automated identification technology (AIT) equipment or change any systems to accommodate AIT. If any DoD Components are presently engaged in such activities and stopping such activities may cause termination consequences that justify continuation, the appropriate Component representative should contact the below Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) (OUSD(AT&L)) point of contact.



The OUSD(AT&L) will work with the Financial Management Modernization Program Management Office (FMM PMO) to oversee the IBM Team study and will promulgate the appropriate policy when the study has been completed. The OUSD(AT&L) point of contact on this matter is LtCol Gregory Redick. LtCol Redick can be reached by e-mail at: Gregory.redick@osd.mil or by telephone at (703) 614-3883. The FMM PMO point of contact is Mr. John Makepeace. Mr. Makepeace can be reached by email at: makepeacej@osd.pentagon.com or by telephone at (703) 607-5701.



E. C. Aldridge, Jr.
Under Secretary of Defense
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Dov S. Zakheim
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